

**To: City Executive Board**

**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010  
**No:**

**Item**

**Report of:** The Head of Policy Culture and Communications

**Title of Report:** Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan 2010-13

### **Summary and Recommendations**

**Purpose of report:** To seek the endorsement of the City Executive Board for the Children and Young People's Plan.

**Key decision:** No

**Executive lead member:** Councillor Antonia Bance, Executive Board Member for Social Inclusion and Young People.

**Report approved by:**

**Finance:** Sarah Fogden

**Legal:** Jeremy Thomas

**Policy Framework:** The Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan supports the following strategic objectives:

- Having 'healthy and thriving communities', and 'reducing inequalities and breaking the cycle of deprivation', (Oxfordshire 2030 Community Strategy).
- 'To improve the health and social inclusion in Oxford City, by providing opportunities and improving services for the most disadvantaged', (Oxford's Sustainable Community Strategy).
- To have 'stronger and more inclusive communities' and to 'reduce crime and antisocial behaviour', (Oxford City Council Corporate Plan).

**Recommendation(s):**

1. That the City Executive Board approve the final draft of the Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan 2010-13.
2. That the Chief Executive, in liaison with the Portfolio Holder for Social Inclusion and Young People, is given the delegated authority to agree any final revisions when the Plan is considered by the Children's Trust on January 16<sup>th</sup> 2010.

## **Background**

1. The Draft Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013 has been developed by the Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Trust. The Plan sets out the ambitions that the Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Trust have for children and young people, and the steps that will be taken to turn these ambitions into reality.
2. The Draft Plan is based upon new Statutory Guidance, published earlier this year, by the Department for Children Schools and Families and it is a Statutory Plan.
3. All partner organisations represented on the Children's Trust are accountable for achieving the priorities set out in the Plan. Oxford City Council has a statutory duty to cooperate with the Children's Trust and all partner organisations must take the Plan through their own governance arrangements for endorsement.
4. An initial version the Draft Plan was presented to Executive Board on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009, along with a Consultants Report, including a suggested draft response from Oxford City Council. The City Executive Board was asked to consider any additional comments to be included in the City Council draft response.
5. A copy of the Revised Plan is in Annex 1. A list of comments made by Oxford City Council and how the County Council say that these have been addressed is in Annex 2.

## **The key messages**

6. The key messages that the City Council made to Oxfordshire County Council were:
  - The difference of the City and impact of not dealing effectively with the City's needs has an impact on the outcomes for the county as a whole.
  - Oxford City is a council that wishes to be involved and have recognition of what it already does for children, young people and families.
  - An appreciation of income poverty and housing need were missing from the Draft Plan and Delivery Plan.

## **Further development of the Delivery Plan**

7. The Children and Young People's Plan has to be agreed in January 2010, in order for the County Council to meet the statutory duty that a new Plan is produced every 3 years.
8. However, this does not include the Delivery Plan. Therefore further work is being undertaken to develop a county wide Delivery Plan and

the Area Trust Delivery Plans. There will be a number of workshops held in January / February 2010 to inform the Delivery Plans, ready for implementation in April 2010.

9. Once the Central Area Plan has been agreed the City Council will develop a City Council Children and Young People's Plan. This will set out the priorities for the children and young people's services in the City and actions that the City Council will take to deliver them. The Oxford City Council Plan will be presented to a future meeting of the City Executive Board for comment/ approval.

### **Risk assessment**

10. A risk assessment has been carried out.

### **Level of risk**

11. A risk assessment is provided in Annex 3. The risks identified are:

- The Plan does not fully reflect or address the needs of children, young people and families in the City. This has been mitigated by employing a specialist consultant to advise the City Council on its response on the Plan.
- The City Council does not meet its statutory duties by contributing to the delivery of the Plan. This will be mitigated by the development of a City Council Children and Young People's Plan.
- If the Plan is not endorsed by the City Council there is a risk of damaging our reputation and partnership working with other agencies on the Children's Trust. This will be mitigated by delegating authority to the Chief Executive, in liaison with the Portfolio Holder to agree the final wording of the Plan at the Children's Trust on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

### **Climate change / environmental impact**

12. It is difficult to assess the full implications of this 'high level' Plan on climate change and the environment. For example, we cannot tell what the impact on carbon emissions will be in relation to the potential increase in use of leisure services as a result of this Plan.

13. The City Council Children and Young People's Plan, when developed, will include a detailed Delivery Plan for Oxford City and a full environmental and climate change impact assessment will be carried out on this Plan.

### **Equalities impact**

14. The Plan is important for Oxford City. Performance on a number of key indicators for children's health and well being and attainment are worst in the City than elsewhere in Oxfordshire and in equivalent areas. It is

essential to ensure that that the needs, of children and young people in the City, are adequately addressed by the Plan and that the Plan is adequately informed.

### **Financial implications**

15. There are no financial implications at this stage. There may be financial implications in the longer term if the City Council becomes involved with the joint commissioning of services for children and young people and families. If this happens the normal financial procedures would be gone through, with further reports to the City Executive Board.

### **Legal Implications**

16. Oxford City Council is a statutory partner on the Children's Trust. As such the City Council has a statutory duty to cooperate with the Children's Trust and must seek agreement to the Plan by the City Executive Board.

### **Recommendation(s):**

17. It is recommended:

- 1) That the City Executive Board approve the final draft of the Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan 2010-13.
- 2) That the Chief Executive, in liaison with the Portfolio Holder for Social Inclusion and Young People is given the delegated authority to agree any revisions

**Name and contact details of author:** Val Johnson, Partnership Development Manager

**Background papers:** None

**Version number:** 2

**Name and contact details of author:**  
Val Johnson, Partnership Development Manager  
Tel: 01865 252209  
E-mail: vjohnson@oxford.gov.uk

**List of background papers:**  
Draft Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan and Delivery Plan  
Children and Young People in Oxfordshire: Needs Analysis  
'Response to Consultation, Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan 2101 -2013', Vic Citarella, November 2009